

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : To Be Assigned
Applicant : BERND STADLER ET AL
Filed : September 11, 2003

Docket No. : 028987.52701US
Customer No. : 23911

Title : ROOF RACK FOR VEHICLES

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The relevance of this reference to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the specification of the present invention.

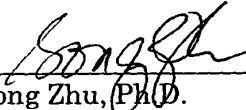
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

Information Disclosure Statement dated September 11, 2003

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

September 11, 2003



Song Zhu, Ph.D.
Registration No. 44,420
Donald D. Evenson
Registration No. 26,160

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
DDE:SZ:tlm

| | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office | Attorney Docket No. 028987.52701US | Serial No. To Be Assigned |
| | Applicant: STADLER <i>et al.</i> | |
| | Filing Date September 11, 2003 | Group |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|-----------------|---------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------|------------------------------|----|
| Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | Filing Date (if appropriate) | |
| | AA | | | | | | | |
| | AB | | | | | | | |
| | AC | | | | | | | |
| | AD | | | | | | | |
| | AE | | | | | | | |
| | AF | | | | | | | |
| | AG | | | | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | TRANSLATION | |
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | AK | 195 43 218 A1 | 01/1997 | Federal Republic of Germany | | | | |
| | AL | | | | | | | |
| | AM | | | | | | | |
| | AN | | | | | | | |
| | AO | | | | | | | |
| | AP | | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | AQ | | | | | | | |
| | AR | | | | | | | |
| | AS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | | |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication. | | | | | | | | |